

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Revocation)	
)	
or Suspension of the Educator)	ORDER OF SUSPENSION
)	(BREACH OF CONTRACT)
Certificate of Sharron H. Seamon,)	
)	
Certificate 172412)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on December 11, 2007. On October 22, 2007, the Office of Educator Certification sent Sharron H. Seamon notice of her right to a hearing regarding the possible suspension of her South Carolina educator certificate by regular and certified mail, return receipt requested, delivery restricted to addressee. On October 24, 2007, Ms. Seamon received the notice as evidenced by a postal receipt bearing her signature. Ms. Seamon did not request a hearing within the time frame specified in the notice letter. After considering the information presented by the South Carolina Department of Education (Department), the State Board voted to suspend Ms. Seamon's certificate for one year.

FINDINGS OF FACT


Ms. Seamon holds a valid South Carolina educator certificate and has over eighteen years of teaching experience. On April 25, 2007, Ms. Seamon signed a letter of employment agreement with the Lee County School District (District) for two hundred work days of the 2007-2008 school year from August 1, 2007, and ending June 13, 2008. She was assigned as a speech services supervisor for the District. On August 15, 2007, Ms. Seamon submitted a letter to the District resigning from her position, effective immediately. The District notified Ms. Seamon by letter dated August 21, 2007, that the Lee County Board of Education (Board) took action on August 20, 2007, voting to consider her resignation a breach of contract with the District and to report this matter to the Department. Ms. Seamon

also was notified that state law provides that any teacher who fails to comply with the provisions of his contract without the written consent of the school board shall be deemed guilty of unprofessional conduct.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The State Board may suspend the certificate of any person for unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. §§ 59-25-150 and 160 (2004). Breach of contract is deemed to be unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (1992). The State Board finds that there is sufficient information supporting its conclusion that Sharron H. Seamon breached her contract with the Lee County School District, warranting the suspension of her certificate for a period of one year, through December 10, 2008. Should Ms. Seamon wish to have her certificate reinstated at the end of the suspension period, she may make a written request for reinstatement to the Department's Office of Educator Certification.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By 
John E. Tindal, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
December 11, 2007